

# ***Tribal Program Newsletter***

We are back! The Tribal Program Newsletter (TPN) has not been published since November 2003. After June 2004, the TPN will be forwarded via email; however, if you do not have access to a computer, please call Maria Castain, EPA, (415) 972-3264 or email her at [castain.maria@epa.gov](mailto:castain.maria@epa.gov) and a paper copy will be sent to you by regular mail. Also, if you prefer to receive an electronic version and we do not have your email address, please send it to her. The TPN will be posted on the web along with along previous newsletters, at

[http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross\\_pr/indian/.html](http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/.html)

## **Meetings and Conferences**

June 1-2      **EPA's Science Forum 2004**

June 1-3      **Healthy Communities and Ecosystems**

The meeting will be held at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel  
1330 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.

For more information: visit the Forum web site

<http://www.epa.gov/ord/scienceforum> or call (703) 318-4678

June 6-9      **Indian Law and Government Conference, Las Vegas, NV**

A law conference for everyone working in Indian Country.

For more information contact: (<http://www.falmouthinstitute.com>)

June 15-17   **Orientation to Wastewater Treatment**

This Training is being offered by Region 4's Enforcement and Investigations Branch at the Region 4 lab in Athens, GA. This introductory course is designed for new inspectors and includes a tour of an operational wastewater treatment facility. To register or for more details, go to

<http://www.netionline.com>

June 16-18   **"Groundwater in the West"**

Meeting to be held in Boulder Colorado. For more information, please call: (303) 492-1286 or email: [Nrcla@colorado.edu](mailto:Nrcla@colorado.edu)

June 20-23   **"National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)"**

The midyear session will be held in Uncasville, CT.

([http://www.ncai.org/main/pages/national\\_calendar/ncai\\_events.asp](http://www.ncai.org/main/pages/national_calendar/ncai_events.asp))

July 19-23    **The 5<sup>th</sup> International Children's Conference on the Environment:**

Sponsored by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), New London, CT. Applications and more information can be accessed online at:

<http://www.icc04.org> or by contacting Kimmie Weeks, Senior Planner/ Advisor at (860) 437-0757, or email [info@icc04.org](mailto:info@icc04.org).

July 20-22     **Regional Tribal Operation Committee (RTOC)**  
 The next RTOC meeting will be hosted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe at the Circus Circus Hotel-Casino, Reno, NV.

- ▶ July 20: Tribal Caucus meeting from 8:00 - 5:00.
- ▶ July 21: Full RTOC meeting from 9:00 - 5:00.
- ▶ July 22: Workgroups will meet for discussion from 9:00 - 12:00,
- ▶ July 22: Pyramid Lake Field Trip from 12:30 - 6:30.

For more information, contact Michele Dineyazhe (415) 972-3786 or email [dineyazhe.michele@epa.gov](mailto:dineyazhe.michele@epa.gov)

July 25 - 30     **American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)**  
 The ASTM Committee D22 on Air Quality will sponsor an international conference on “Mold in the Indoor Environment” at the University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. Membership in ASTM International is not required. The fee to attend this symposium is \$320 for presenters and ASTM members if paid before July 2 and \$370 for non-members. After July 2, the fee for presenters and ASTM members is \$345 and \$395 for non-members. The fee is waived for students with a valid I.D. For information about the symposium, which includes a program agenda, registration, and hotel details, access the ASTM web site at [http://www.astm.org/SYMPOSIA/D22\\_Symp04.htm](http://www.astm.org/SYMPOSIA/D22_Symp04.htm). For additional information contact the Symposium Chairperson: Eva Ewing (770) 499-7127; ([EMEwing@aol.com](mailto:EMEwing@aol.com));

Oct. 25-26     **The Regional Tribal Operation Committee (RTOC)**  
 The RTOC will meet at the Holiday Inn Golden Gate in San Francisco, CA prior to the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Region 9 Tribal/EPA Conference. For more information, contact Michele Dineyazhe (415) 972-3786 or email [dineyazhe.michele@epa.gov](mailto:dineyazhe.michele@epa.gov)

Oct. 27-29     **The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Region 9 Tribal/EPA Conference**  
 The conference will be held at the Holiday Inn Golden Gate in San Francisco, CA. It will be hosted by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. All forms may be obtained by calling Lela Leyva, Conference Coordinator, (775) 574-1000 ext. 245; FAX (775) 574-1010; [lleyva@plpt.nsn.us](mailto:lleyva@plpt.nsn.us)

Oct. 2005     **Tribal/EPA Conference 2005:**  
 Picayune Rancheria will co-host the 2005 EPA Tribal Environmental Conference. More information in upcoming newsletters.

## Training

### The Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals at North Arizona University (ITEP/NAU)

July 20-23 and September 14-17. . . . . Basic Inspector Training  
 August 17-10 . . . . . NPDES Inspector Training  
 Information on these courses is available from the ITEP/NAU website  
<http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/eci.asp> or by contacting Todd Barbell at (928) 523-3840 or [Todd.Barnell@nau.edu](mailto:Todd.Barnell@nau.edu).

**The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA)**

June 7-12 Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention Training and Examination

June 18-19 Refresher course on above -mentioned training.

July 7-12 Cross-Connection and Backflow Prevention Training and Examination

June 8-10 An American Indian Air Quality Training Program (AIAQTP) training course on Air Toxics, Las Vegas, NV. Contact Lydia Scheer at (928) 523-6887

July 13-14 "Healthy Water, Healthy People" Education and Training Workshop, Peoria, AZ

For more information and registration forms, please call the ITCA, (602) 258-4822.

June 15-17 The ABCs of C&D Debris, Tower, Minnesota. The course is free to tribes. For information call (202) 331-8084, ext. 222

Training Seminars and Technical Assistance are available from the Bill Helmich Associates at <http://www.billhelmichassociates.com>

**National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI):**

The most up-to-date list of enforcement/compliance monitoring courses offered by EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance is now available at <http://www.netionline.com>. NETI is also advertising some EPA Regional office-sponsored courses from Regions 4, 5 and 6.

Summertime . . . and the training is pleasing! Check <http://www.netionline.com> for several June, July and August offerings of some of the most popular enforcement courses such as Basic Inspector, Advanced Inspector, and Advanced Negotiations Skills training.

**Can't travel to training?** Our catalog and schedule list several videos and CD-ROM courses that can be mailed to you FREE of charge. Go to <http://www.netionline.com> and register as a student at EPA's "virtual university," NETI Online, and start class in your own office!

**Continuing Challenge Workshop**

The Continuing Challenge Workshop will be held in at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, CA, beginning September 7. Advancement in hazard materials emergency response are dynamic and this cooperative educational venture for HazMat Responders features classroom sessions, outdoor workshops. Your attendance could be critical to promote the health and safety of responders, the public and the environment. For more information call (916) 433-1688.

**Grands and Loans****California Endowment Program**

California Endowment awards grants to organizations and institutions that directly benefit the health and well-being of Californians, and those that work to provide and

expand access to affordable, quality health care for California's under served individuals and communities. The Endowment offers two open application grant programs designed to fund ideas and approaches to health improvements generated at the community level.

CommunitiesFirst accepts applications year-round and is rooted in the understanding that communities are central to health improvements; and that inclusion, partnership and community ownership are critical to addressing issues successfully.

The Local Opportunities Fund provides grants of up to \$50,000 to organizations that are addressing important health issues on a local level. Applications are reviewed following deadlines in January, May and September. For more information concerning grant opportunities at The California Endowment please go to <http://www.calendow.org> or call 1 (800) 449-4149.

### **Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD)**

The National Cancer Institute, through its CRCHD, invites cooperative agreement grant applications (U01) for Community Networks to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities Through Education, Research, and Training (Community Networks Program – CNP). The purpose of the CNP is to reduce cancer health disparities by conducting community-based participatory education, training, and research among under served populations. The goal of this program is to significantly improve access to and utilization of beneficial cancer interventions in communities with cancer health disparities, thereby reducing these disparities.

Applicants should have a documented history of involvement with the community and have qualified staff to direct the program. Collaborative applications are encouraged. Among collaborators, one must be designated as the lead applicant and assume responsibility for the project. Organizations that must rely primarily on consultants to conduct the project are ineligible. Foreign organizations are not eligible and domestic organizations may not include international (foreign) components.

Individuals from under-represented racial and ethnic groups as well as individuals with disabilities are always encouraged to apply for NIH programs. For more information contact: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-05-012.html>

### **Technical Outreach Services for Native American Communities (TOSNAC)**

The TOSNAC program provides technical assistance to Native Americans dealing with hazardous substance issues. This program is national in scope and coordinated through the Haskell Environment Research Studies Center at Haskell Indian Nations University. It provides first contact, needs assessments, initial support, and long-term technical support arrangements by regional Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC) programs and other resources, as necessary.

A major part of the TOSNAC effort involves assisting tribes to develop Cultural Risk Assessment processes meeting specific cultural values/beliefs, in terms that both tribes and other stakeholders (such as EPA, DoD, and states) can understand. This requires co-learning among the tribal, TOSNAC, and other stakeholders. The end result, if successful, is a consensus approach to detecting, assessing and addressing

impacts to important tribal cultural resources. For more information, contact: Brenda Brandon, TOSNAC Manager (885) 749-8498, or email [BrendaBrandon@msn.com](mailto:BrendaBrandon@msn.com).

### **2004 Pollution Prevention (P2) Grant Federal Register Notice of Availability**

Under the authority of the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, EPA plans to award \$5 million in pollution prevention grants to the States, Tribes, and Intertribal Consortia in FY 2004 for prevention activities during FY 2005. These grant dollars are targeted at State and Tribal technical assistance programs that address the reduction or elimination of pollution by businesses across all environmental media: air, land, and water. Since the inception of the grant program, EPA has awarded approximately \$80 million. The goal of this grant program is to assist businesses and industries in identifying better environmental strategies and solutions for reducing waste at the source. This year, in order to achieve regional and preferably, national impact, the regions are encouraging grant applicants to replicate prior P2 grant projects which have demonstrated a measurable environmental impact. Each region will have the flexibility of selecting at least one project, which demonstrates a measurable impact. In addition, this year, EPA, more prominently emphasizes measurement as one of the National program criteria used in evaluating grant applications. For more information call C. Darrel Harmon, Senior Indian Program Manager, US EPA, Office of Air and Radiation at (202) 564-7416; fax (202) 501-1153; email [harmon.darrel@epa.gov](mailto:harmon.darrel@epa.gov)

## **New Publications**

The Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances has published the "pilot" issue of OPPTS Tribal News. This EPA publication is intended for noncommercial, scientific, and educational purposes. It can be viewed on the Internet at [www.epa.gov/opptintr/Tribal](http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/Tribal), and a printed version will be mailed to you by writing to:

OPPTS Tribal News, U.S. EPA, OPPT,  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue (MC7408M),  
Washington, DC, 20460

Science and American Indian Website: This website is a scientific data and informational site designed for tribes and persons working on tribal environmental issues. The Web site provides science information and resources such as key science topics, tribal science projects, web-based technical assistance and training opportunities. Also announcements and links to current funding opportunities, conferences, workshops, etc. Website address is <http://www.epa.gov/osp/tribes>, Contact Claudia Walters, ORD at (202) 564-6762 for comments and additional information.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Take the Smoke-free Home Pledge**

Secondhand smoke can cause serious health problems, especially to children. Children who breathe secondhand smoke are more likely to get bronchitis, pneumonia, have more ear infections, more asthma attacks, and more wheezing and coughing. Many of these health problems can be reduced or even prevented just by not allowing anyone to smoke around your children. For several years EPA has

encouraged parents and care givers to choose to make their homes and cars smoke free. If your community is interested in launching a "Smoke-Free Home" campaign, EPA has developed outreach material, pledge brochures, and event planning guides to help you raise public awareness on this serious health issue. For more information on EPA's "Smoke-Free Home Pledge" campaign check our Web site:  
<http://www.epa.gov/smokefree/> (Contact: Louise Hill, (415) 947-4192).

### **Vulnerability Assessments**

A reminder to small drinking water systems (3,300 but less than 50,000) that there is a requirement under the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 to submit a vulnerability assessment (VA) and VA certificate of completion to EPA by June 30, 2004. Also, a revised emergency response plan (ERP) to incorporate the results of the VA within six (6) months of completing the VA and submit only the ERP certification of completion to EPA.

For ALL tribal drinking water systems, regardless of population served: While there may be no Federal mandate to complete a VA and update your ERP, it is highly recommended that some effort be made to improve emergency preparedness. ERPs are for all water systems, since providing safe drinking water is critical regardless of population served. NTEC, RCAC and ITCA have been provided funding to assist any and all tribal water systems with emergency preparedness activities and are available for onsite assistance in this area. Contact the circuit rider with whom you are most comfortable or contact these technical assistance providers through their main office.

Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona - Deborah Patton - (602) 307-1548  
Rural Community Assistance Corporation - Richard Prince - (530) 333-4662  
National Tribal Environmental Council - Ron Thomson - (916) 782-4471

Also, the following are resources available to assist you with this effort:

EPA's drinking water security site: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/security/>  
EPA's instructions on completing a VA: <http://www.gov/safetwater/security/til-inst.pdf>  
AZ drinking water security site: <http://www.adeq.state.az.us/environ/water/dw/ep>.  
CA drinking water security site:  
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ddwem/Homeland/watersecurityindex.htm>

If you have any questions or need assistance, please call Karl Banks, (415) 972-3557

### **Web sites for Tribal Programs and other EPA Programs:**

American Indian Environmental Office (EPA)  
<http://www.epa.gov/indian>

Office of Compliance (EPA)  
<http://www.epa.gov/compliance>

National Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse  
<http://www.epa.gov/clearinghouse>

Pollution Prevention & Environ. Mgmt Systems  
<http://www.epa.gov/p2>

Tribal Court Clearinghouse

<http://www.tribal-institute.org>

National Tribal Environmental Council  
<http://www.4.nau.ed/itep/>

Inter Tribal Council of Arizona  
<http://www.itcaonline.com>

Federal Indian Law Handbook  
<http://www.thorpe.ou.edu/cohen/html>

National Tribal Justice Resource Center  
<http://www.tribalresourcescenter.org>

National Congress of American Indians  
<http://www..ncai.org>

World Health Organization SARS  
<http://www.who.int/en>

Center for Disease Control  
<http://www.cdc.gov>

ITCA's Tribal Air National ListServ  
[TribalAir-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:TribalAir-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

If you have information or corrections or know of resources that you want to submit to the TPN, please contact:  
Maria Castain, U.S. EPA (Region 9)  
75 Hawthorne Street, Tribal Program Office, CMD-3  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
(415) 972-3264; fax (415 ) 947-3562; [castain.maria@epa.gov](mailto:castain.maria@epa.gov)

